

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-11 (cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) A contact for establishing electrical connection with an electrically conductive wire, comprising:

a base and two elongate blades extending from the base and defining therebetween a channel within which a wire is to be received, a first blade of the two elongate blades being flat and a second blade of the two elongate blades being shaped and having a longitudinal axis, a flat contact surface of one blade being opposite a cutting edge, defined by two surfaces having respective planes, of the other blade and lying on opposite sides of the channel, the flat contact surface maintaining the wire substantially parallel to the flat contact surface through the channel and the cutting edge of the other blade pointing towards the flat contact surface;

wherein the blades each have two major surfaces and two minor surfaces and the flat contact surface comprises a portion of a major surface of one blade proximate the other blade and

wherein the flat contact surface lies in a first plane and the planes of the two surfaces defining the cutting edge lie in a second and a third plane respectively, the second and third planes being respectively between 30° and 60° to the first plane.

13. (Original) The contact according to Claim 12, wherein the second blade is shaped so as to present the flat contact surface to the cutting edge of the other blade.

14. (Original) The contact according to Claim 13, wherein the shaped blade prescribes an arc about an axis parallel to the longitudinal axis of the shaped blade.

15. (Original) The contact according to Claim 12, wherein the blades each have two major surfaces and two minor surfaces and the flat contact surface comprises a minor surface of one blade proximate the other blade.

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Previously Presented) The contact according to Claim 12, wherein the cutting edge comprises a corner of a major surface with a minor surface of the other blade.

18. (Cancelled).

19. (Previously Presented) The contact according to Claim 12, wherein the second and third planes are in the region of 45° to the first plane.

20. (Currently Amended) A contact for establishing electrical connection with an electrically conductive wire, comprising:

a base and two elongate blades extending from the base and defining therebetween a channel within which a wire is to be received, a first blade of the two elongate blades being flat and a second blade of the two elongate blades being shaped, a flat contact surface of one blade and a cutting edge defined by two surfaces of the other blade lying on opposite sides of the channel, wherein a line drawn parallel to the flat contact surface and passing through a point defined by ~~an end of~~ the cutting edge is not parallel to either of the surfaces defining the cutting edge.

21. (Currently Amended) An insulation displacement connector, comprising:

a contact manufactured from a planar material and having a base and two elongate blades extending from the base and defining therebetween a channel within which a wire is to be received, a first blade of the two elongate blades being flat and a second blade of the two elongate blades being shaped, a flat contact surface of one blade being opposite a cutting edge defined by two surfaces of the other blade and lying on opposite sides of the channel, the flat contact surface maintaining the wire substantially parallel to the flat contact surface through the channel and the cutting edge of the other blade pointing towards the flat contact surface;

wherein the blades each have two major surfaces and two minor surfaces and the flat contact surface comprises a portion of a major surface of one blade proximate the other blade and

wherein the flat contact surface lies in a first plane and the planes of the two surfaces defining the cutting edge lie in a second and a third plane respectively, the second and third planes being respectively between 30° and 60° to the first plane.

22. (Currently Amended) An insulation displacement connector, comprising:

a contact manufactured from a planar material and having a base and two elongate blades extending from the base and defining therebetween a channel within which a wire is to be received, a first blade of the two elongate blades being flat and a second blade of the two elongate blades being shaped, a flat contact surface of one blade and a cutting edge defined by two surfaces of the other blade ~~the elongate blades~~ lying on opposite sides of the channel, wherein a line drawn parallel to the flat contact surface and passing through a point defined by ~~an end of~~ the cutting edge is not parallel to either of the surfaces defining the cutting edge.

23. (Original) The insulation of claim 12, wherein the contact is manufactured from a planar material.

24. (Original) The insulation of claim 20, wherein the contact is manufactured from a planar material.

25. (Previously Presented) The insulation of claim 20, wherein a plane drawn parallel to the flat contact surface and passing through the point defined by the end of the cutting edge is not parallel to either of the surfaces defining the cutting edge.

26. (Previously Presented) The insulation of claim 22, wherein a plane drawn parallel to the flat contact surface and passing through the point defined by the end of the cutting edge is not parallel to either of the surfaces defining the cutting edge.